

# ***Planning, Policy and Local Issues***

## **VDOT's Local Assistance Division & The Urban Initiative**

### **2004 Virginia Transportation Conference**

**Michael A. Estes, P.E.**

**Director**

**October 18, 2004**



# **VDOT's Local Assistance Division**

**Transportation  
Enhancements**

**Urban Construction  
Program**

**Revenue Sharing**

**Urban Maintenance**

**Subdivision Street  
Requirements**

**Land Use Permits**

**Scenic Byways**

**Locally Administered  
Projects**

**Roadway Additions and  
Abandonments**

**Access Programs**

**Rural Rustic Program**

**General Assembly  
Committee Assignments**

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## Local Assistance Division

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[Rural Rustic Roads](#) | [Urban Highways](#) | [Subdivision Streets](#)  
[Secondary Road Changes](#) | [Land Use](#) | [Forms](#) | [Access Programs](#)  
[Special and Federal Programs](#) | [Locally Administered Project Agreements](#)

**New!** [First Cities - Urban Assistance Construction Program](#)

VDOT's Local Assistance Division develops policy and provides guidance for special funding programs and other programs that impact work performed by localities, and serves as a liaison to local government organizations. The division also performs the following functions:

- Manages several special funding programs
- Manages secondary and urban system changes including subdivision street acceptance
- Manages the land use permitting program
- Manages the local assistance payments program
- Provides oversight for locally administered projects
- Coordinates the urban construction program

### Local Assistance programs:

- [Scenic Byways](#)

### Commuter & Traveler

- [Road Conditions](#)
- [Travel Advisories](#)
- [Highway Helpline](#)
- [High Occupancy Vehicles \(HOV\) Lanes](#)
- [Smart Tag](#)
- [Driver's License Info](#)
- [Scenic Byways](#)
- [Trip Planner](#)
- [Webcams](#)

### Business User

- [Request for Proposals](#)
- [RFP Results](#)
- [Request for Quotes](#)
- [Const. & Maintenance Contracting](#)
- [Bid Results](#)
- [Disadvantaged Business Enterprise](#)

### Proposals & Bidding

### Contract Awards

- [Request for Quotes](#)
- [Short List & Selected](#)
- [Bid Letting \(Const.\)](#)

### VDOT Divisions

### Events

### Certif. & Permits

### Manuals/Guides

### Online Services

### Training

### HIGHWAY HELPLINE

1-800-367-ROAD

(TTY users, call 1-800-422-1942)

# Urban Program

➤ Cities & Towns	81
➤ Total Projects	492
➤ Maint. Allocations	\$235 M (FY05) \$1.6 B (FY05-10)
➤ CN Allocations	\$106 M (FY05) \$565 M (FY05-10)
➤ Total Allocations	\$341 M (FY05) \$2.2 B (FY05-10)

# Urban Construction Program

- **VDOT Managed Projects**
  - **Municipality Managed Projects**
  - **Combination**
- 
- **A Move Toward the Municipality Managed Program**

# Urban Initiative

- **Amendment to Code**
- **Interest to Date**
- **Relationship of Interested Parties to Urban Program**
- **Teamwork**
- **Implementation**

# **Code of Virginia 2003 Amendment**

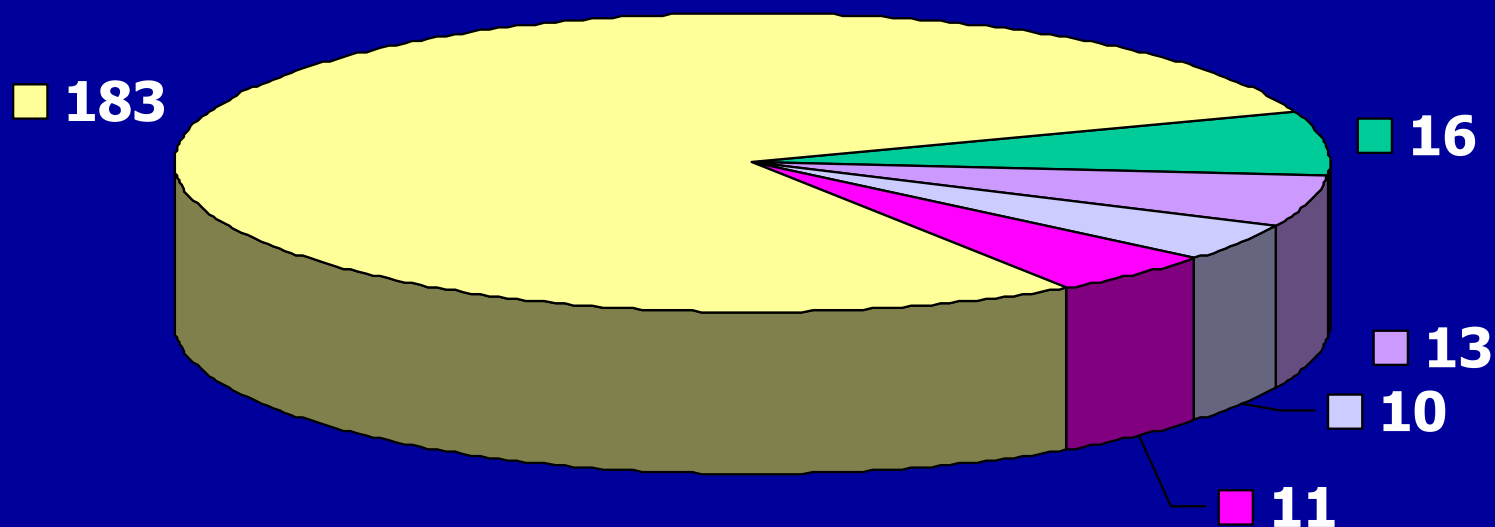
- **Municipality may request the responsibility of taking over their construction program by notifying the CTB by July 1, for implementation the following year**
- **Construction fund payments to be made on a quarterly basis**

# **Code of Virginia 2003 Amendment**

- **Construction funds reduced by the amount of federal-aid construction funds credited to each municipality**
- **Construction funds reduced by the amount of funds allowed or forecasted to be expended by the Department of Transportation or Department of Rail and Public Transportation for any projects requested by the municipality**

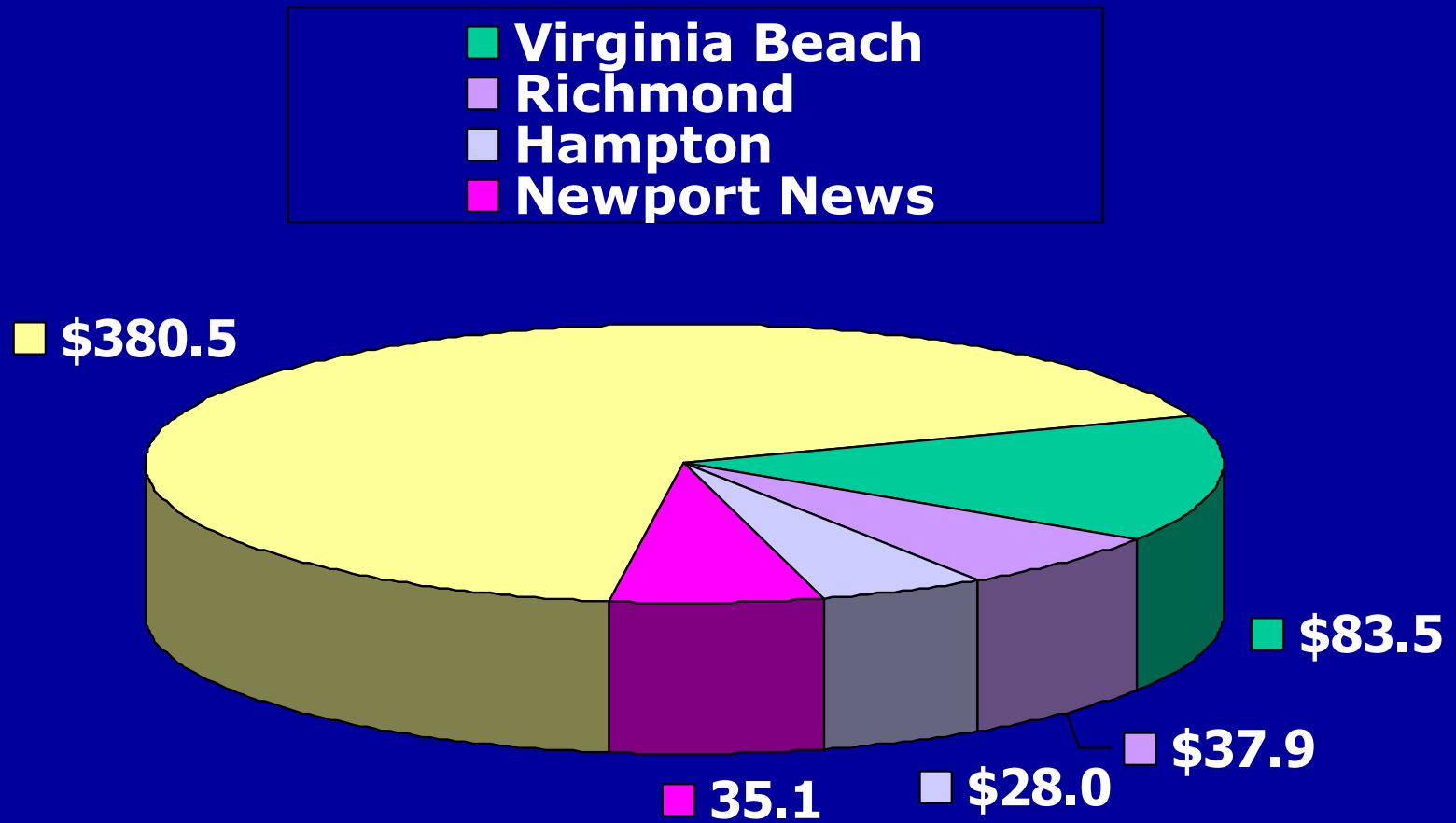


# Urban Construction Program Total Projects (FY04)



# Urban Construction Program FY05-FY10 Allocations

(In Millions)



# **A Team Effort**

## **Series of Workshops to Seek:**

1. Guidance from FHWA
2. Agreement Within the Department
3. Consensus With First Cities

# **A Team Effort**

## **Series of Workshops:**

October, 2003	Kickoff/FHWA
November, 2003	Audit/Fiscal/Environmental/Right-of-Way
January, 2004	Design/Federal Funding/Agreement
February, 2004	Fiscal/Construction/Contracts/Civil Rights
April, 2004	VDOT Funding/Guidelines/Implementation
May, 2004	Final Agreement/Guidelines/Implementation
June, 2004	Guidelines/Implementation

**Final Agreement ready for program  
implementation July 1st**

# **Advantages for Localities**

- **Local control of process**
- **Financial management of state revenues (received in quarterly payments)**
- **Eligibility of expenses (salaries can be used as 2% match)**
- **Streamlining of project delivery**
- **State funded projects require minimal oversight**

# Realities

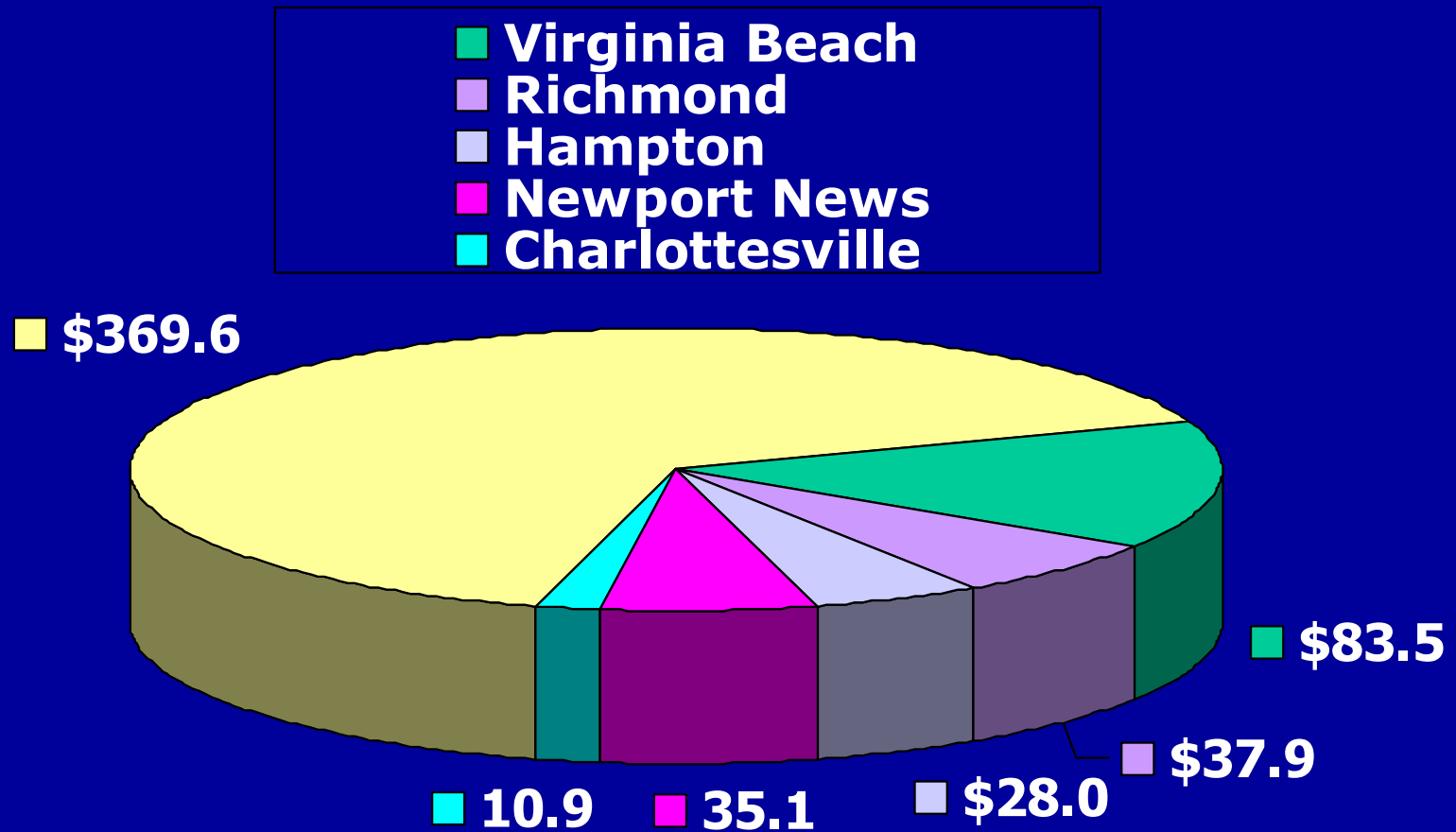
- **Federal requirements will not go away**
- **State is still responsible to the FHWA**

# Status

- |                   |                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Hampton         | Agreement Signed                  |
| • Virginia Beach  | Agreement Signed                  |
| • Richmond        | Agreement Signed                  |
| • Newport News    | Hold until July 2005              |
| • Charlottesville | Letter of Intent for<br>July 2005 |

# Urban Construction Program FY05-FY10 Allocations

(In Millions)





# **VDOT - A New Role**

- **Oversight versus Review/Approval**
  - Model after FHWA
- **New Local Programs Manager**
- **District “Local” Teams**
  - Designee per specialty (design, environmental, land acquisition, etc.)
  - Monthly bills
- **Training**

# **The Cities' New Role**

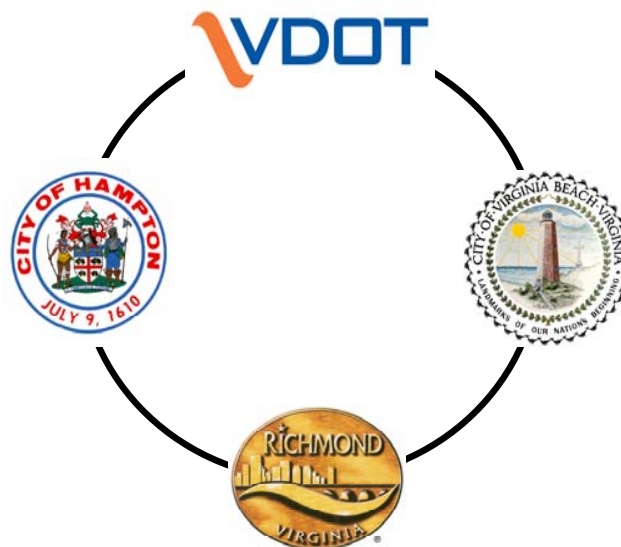
- **Financial management**
- **Federal obligation**
- **Augmentation of staff and responsibility**
- **Sole contact for citizen interest**
- **Consultant/construction procurement**

# Next Steps

- **Further coordination with District Staff**
- **Additional workshops**
- **Further refinement of companion Guidelines**
  - Oversight role versus Approval role
  - Financial reporting
  - Professional documentation of new process
- **Implementation**

# Local Administration of Urban System Construction Program

## Program Development Guide Virginia Department of Transportation



Local Assistance Division  
Virginia Department of Transportation  
1401 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219  
(804) 786-2746

Commonwealth of Virginia

Last Updated: July 30, 2004

# **The Future?**

- **Continued work with cities/towns**
- **Studies underway by counties**
- **Continue to define and refine VDOT's role**

**Local success is VDOT success**

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